Message Text

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S/S:SGOLDSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:IAEA, TECH, PARM

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH IAEA DIRECTOR GENERAL EKLUND PRIOR TO

SALZBURG CONFERENCE

- 1. SUMMARY: IN CALL ON DR. EKLUND PRIOR TO OPENING SALZBURG CONFERENCE, SENIOR U.S. PARTICIPANTS REVIEWED RECENT U.S. POLICY DECISIONS AND PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION GROUP (INFCEP) EXPLAINING MANNER IN WHICH INFCEP MIGHT BE RELATED TO IAEA. DR. EKLUND GAVE ASSURANCE IAEA WILL BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE IN ASSISTING U.S. ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES. END SUMMARY.
- 2. ACTING ERDA ADMINISTRATOR FRI, DEPUTY TO UNDER SECRETARY FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE NYE, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR SIEVERING AND AMBASSADOR STONE CALLED ON DR. EKLUND IN HIS HOTEL SUITE AFTERNOON MAY 1. AT OUTSET, HE WAS HANDED PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO HIM ON OCCASION OF OPENING OF IAEA CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR POWER AND ITS FUEL CYCLE (STATE 98127-NOTAL). DR. EKLUND READ MESSAGE AND EXPRESSED SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR IT.
- 3. DR. NYE THEN HANDED HIM ADVANCE TEXT OF SPEECH HE WOULD MAKE AT U.S. LUNCHEON MAY 2 FOR HEADS OF DELEGATIONS AND SENIOR IAEA REPS, REVIEWED SPEECH IN DETAIL AND CITED ITS MOST SIGNIFICANT FEATURES. HE POINTED OUT THAT SINCE U.S.

NUCLEAR POLICY HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED IN SEVERAL PARTS, BEGINNING WITH U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY, IT HAD BEEN DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF OUR POLICY. OUR DOMESTIC STATEMENT HAD IMPLIED A NUMBER OF NEGATIVE APPROACHES WHICH HIS SPEECH WOULD ATTEMPT TO PUT INTO PERSPECTIVE. IN PARTICULAR HE WOULD REAFFIRM U.S. COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR ENERGY, AND THE NPT, AND REAFFIRM WHAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IAEA HAD DONE TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY THROUGH ITS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS TAKEN STEPS TO REDUCE ROLE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN WORLD POLITICS AND WAS STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS.

- 4. DR. NYE SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW IF THE REPORTS REGARDING DR. EKLUND'S REMARKS AT THE PERSEPOLIS CONFERENCE WERE ACCURATE BUT WE HAD BEEN PUZZLED BY WHAT HE HAD BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING. DR. EKLUND REPLIED THAT HIS REMARKS HAD BEEN VERY CONDITIONAL. HE HAD SAID AT THE OUTSET THAT HE HAD NOT AT THAT TIME RECEIVED ANY PRECISE INFORMATION, THEREFORE, HE COULD ONLY COMMENT ON PRESS REPORTS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THERE THAT IF PROPOSED U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY WERE TO BE MADE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IT COULD HAVE VERY UNFORTUNATE RESULTS.
- 5. DR. NYE REFERRED TO ARTICLE IV OF THE NPT, AND REMARKED THAT THAT ARTICLE NEVER SOUGHT TO FACILITATE

PROLIFERATION. DR. EKLUND SAID THAT RAISED A DELICATE POINT WHETHER REPROCESSING WOULD FACILITATE PROLIFERATION. NYE COMMENTED THAT THE U.S. BELIEVED THAT QUESTION REQUIRED FURTHER STUDY.

- 6. MR. FRI SAID WE HAVE NOT FORESWORN THE BREEDER REACTOR, WE STILL HAVE A MAJOR PROGRAM BUT WE ARE LOOKING AT A WIDE VARIETY OF ALTERNATIVES. WE BELIEVE THERE HAS TO BE SOME FORM OF TECHNOLOGY BEYOND THE LIGHT WATER REACTOR.
- 7. DR. NYE THEN REFERRED TO INFCEP AND CALLED DR. EKLUND'S ATTENTION TO PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH IN HIS SPEECH WHICH DEALT WITH MANNER IN WHICH INTERNATIONAL STUDY WOULD BE CONDUCTED. DR. EKLUND SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS COULD PARTICIPATE. QUESTION WAS HOW SUCH STUDY COULD BE ORGANIZED IN PRACTICAL WAY. DR. NYE SAID A SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF IAEA IN PROGRAM WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE WELCOME. HE WANTED, HOWEVER, TO KEEP STUDY AS INFORMAL AS POSSIBLE. HE TENTATIVELY ENVISAGED THE IAEA ROLE IN THREE DIFFERENT WAYS:

- A. PARTICIPATION IN WORKING GROUPS WHERE THE IAEA COULD ACT IN THREE WAYS
 - 1) ACTUALLY CONDUCT STUDIES, AS THE AGENCY HAD DONE IN CASE OF REGIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE CENTER STUDY
 - 2) A LEAD COUNTRY COULD ORGANIZE A STUDY FOR EXAMPLE OF THORIUM CYCLE AND IAEA COULD PARTICIPATE LIKE A MEMBER COUNTRY
 - 3) IN SITUATIONS WHERE SECRETARIAT WAS NOT WORKING ON A GIVEN SUBJECT THEY COULD SEND OBSERVERS
- B. IAEA SYMPOSIA

WHERE GROUP OF COUNTRIES HAVE REACHED POINT THEY BELIEVE SIGNIFICANT, IAEA COULD CALL SYMPOSIA TO DISCUSS RESULTS AND MAKE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO AS LARGE A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE. THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SPONSORSHIP OF PERIODIC OVERVIEWS OF ENTIRE PROGRAM.

C. STEERING COMMITTEE

WE WOULD ENVISAGE IAEA AS OBSERVER AT STEERING

COMMITTEE WHICH ESSENTIALLY WOULD BE COMPOSED OF LEAD COUNTRIES. DG OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD PARTICIPATE. THIS WOULD BE INFORMAL BODY, OPERATING BY CONSENSUS. THERE WOULD BE NO VOTING. IN FIRST INSTANCE COUNTRIES WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAJOR NUCLEAR PROGRAMS WOULD BE INVITED AND WE WOULD INCLUDE BOTH SUPPLIERS AND RECIPIENTS TO AVOID THAT DISTINCTION.

HE ASKED FOR DR. EKLUND'S REACTION.

8. DR. EKLUND ASKED WHAT THE TIME FRAME OF THE STUDY WOULD BE. NYE REPLIED THERE WOULD BE NO FIXED TIME FRAME BUT THERE WOULD BE A STOCKTAKING IN OCTOBER 1978. DR. FRI POINTED OUT WE WERE NOT COMMITTING OURSELVES TO A SPECIFIC REACTOR CONCEPT. THERE COULD BE A VARIETY OF CONCEPTS THAT WE WOULD WANT TO PURSUE FOR A RELATIVELY LONG TIME. DR. NYE ADDED THAT DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE STUDY WOULD REQUIRE DIFFERENT TIMEFRAMES.

9. DR. EKLUND SAID HE HAD DEFINITE FEELING THAT THE NUMBER OF MEETINGS ON NUCLEAR ISSUES WERE REACHING THE

SATURATION POINT, AND THIS WOULD BE KEPT IN MIND. HE SAID THAT SINCE ENTIRE CONCEPT CAME FROM U.S., U.S. SHOULD ORGANIZE THE STEERING COMMITTEE. COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE TO BE PICKED WHICH REALLY HAVE A POSITIVE DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY. HE FELT IT WOULD NOT BE EASY TO ORGANIZE AN INFORMAL STEERING COMMITTEE. IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR IT NOT TO APPEAR AS THOUGH IT WAS A DIVERSION FROM THE IAFA

10. IN REPLY TO DR. NYE'S COMMENT THAT THOSE COUNTRIES THAT DO THE WORK WOULD BE ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE, DR. EKLUND SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE THOSE THAT WOULD SAY THEY WANTED TO WORK BUT WE WOULD NEVER SEE ANY RESULTS. HE FELT THE TASK WAS A PRESSING ONE, BUT POINTED OUT THAT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BY THEIR NATURE OPERATED SLOWLY. NYE REJOINED THAT THIS WAS WHY WE WANTED IT ORGANIZED AS WORKING GROUPS OUTSIDE THE AGENCY, IN ORDER TO SPEED IT UP. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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11. DR. EKLUND SAID QUOTE WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO BE HELPFUL UNQUOTE, AND THEN CAUTIONED THAT THE U.S. MUST BE AWARE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROBLEM AND THE SENSITIVITY OF MEMBER STATES.

12. IN CLOSING DR. EKLUND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE DISCUSSION AND URGED MR. FRI AND DR. NYE TO MAKE THEMSELVES AVAILABLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS U.S. POLICY. DR. NYE SAID WE WANTED TO MOVE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO STRENGTHEN THE IAEA. VANCE

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